

funding, it currently employs 28 people at two locations and will expand to over 100 in the upcoming year. ABS Materials is currently working on producing a more environmentally friendly way of separating oil from ocean water in the Gulf of Mexico.

I congratulate both of these companies on their perseverance and success during these tough economic times and their leadership in combating the worst oil spill in our country's history.

#### HONORING CHEVEZ CLARKE

(Mr. GINGREY of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chevez Clarke, a baseball player from my hometown of Marietta, Georgia, who, along with two other Georgians, Kaleb Cowart of Cook High School and Cam Bedrosian of East Coweta High School, was drafted with the first round of the 2010 Major League Baseball draft by the Los Angeles Angels.

Clarke, who's a senior at Marietta High School, is a switch-hitting center fielder, and scouts say he has the ability to be a "game-changer." Marietta Coach Chris Stafford said Clarke is the most talented player he has ever had the chance to coach and is a "very mature, focused kid." No doubt Marietta High School benefited greatly from the playing ability of Chevez Clarke.

Mr. Speaker, I want to extend my congratulations to Chevez Clarke's mom and dad, who I know played a big part in his success, and I wish Chevez all the best.

#### IN MEMORY OF ARMY SPECIALIST BENJAMIN OSBORN

(Mr. MURPHY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with the very sad duty of reporting the tragic passing of Army Specialist Benjamin Osborn. Osborn was killed in action in Afghanistan on June 15, 2010. Specialist Osborn was assigned to the Army's 101st Airborne based out of Fort Campbell, Kentucky. A beloved son, husband, friend, and soldier from Lake George, Ben will be sorely missed by the entire Adirondack community. My heart goes out to Ben's wife, Nicole, and to his parents, William and Beverly. This true American hero made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of his Nation, and we owe him our eternal gratitude.

Ben Osborn, just 27 years old, volunteered for the position of gunner because, in the words of his sister, Bethany, "He was a proud soldier and believed in what he was doing." Specialist Osborn was willing to give his life in service to all of us and to the country that he loved. The expression of our gratitude for his sacrifice to our Nation is beyond words. This Nation

has been built by great men and women like Ben Osborn, and we must never forget the true cost of the freedoms that we hold dear. I pray that it's not just on days like today when everyone is reminded of the hardships, suffering, bravery, and sacrifices of our Armed Forces. Every day we must try to be more like Ben and dedicate ourselves to these worthy ideals for which he gave his life.

On behalf of a grateful Nation, our thoughts and prayers are with the entire Osborn family during this difficult time.

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#### THE FAIRTAX

(Mr. GRAVES of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Americans are overtaxed. The Tax Foundation estimates that it took American workers over 3 months this year to pay their share of local, State, and Federal taxes, and this Congress has raised taxes over \$500 billion on the American people so far.

You know, enough is enough. We need to reduce spending and then focus on reforming the tax code with a fairer, simpler system. That's why I have cosponsored H.R. 25, the FairTax. The FairTax eliminates income taxes, estate taxes, capital gains taxes, Social Security, Medicare, and self-employment taxes and replaces them with one simple retail sales tax. Workers will keep 100 percent of their paychecks, and a new set of winners and losers will be there. The winners being the taxpayers, and the losers being the government.

The FairTax is common sense and abolishes the IRS, making April 15 just another day on the calendar, and maybe one day, we can pass a suspension to recognize that great accomplishment. Lower taxes, less government, and personal responsibility—that's a recipe to getting this economy back on track.

#### RESTORING DIGNITY AND FREEDOM TO THIS NATION

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last Saturday, June 19, was the celebration of Juneteenth. Thirty-six States now recognize that as a State holiday, a holiday that is not just for one narrow community, but in actuality, is about perseverance, determination, commitment, and freedom. Major Gordon Granger landed on the shores of Galveston, Texas, to announce that those who had been enslaved are free, 2 years later, past the Emancipation Proclamation of Abraham Lincoln.

Today we have the same challenges of restoring, of being persevering and

determined to improve education, to restore summer jobs that have not been voted on yet, to pass a remedies bill that I am introducing that is going to take a new look at the gulf oil spill and restore some new processes to not have this happen again. And yes, restore some dignity to the brass as it relates to the Commander in Chief, who should always be respected. Let us restore dignity and freedom to this Nation and include the United States military brass that have to be more respectful of the President than I have seen in the last 48 hours.

#### BONE MARROW DONATION

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage participation in the National Marrow Donor Program. There are many terrible diseases, as we know, especially leukemia, where patients may very well require a bone marrow transplant, yet nearly 70 percent of patients don't match with a family member for a transplant. That's why the National Marrow Donor Program is so vital.

These patients need you. They depend on the selfless people in our community that are registered with the National Marrow Donor Program. Every name that is added greatly increases the likelihood that a patient will find the match that that person needs. And joining the registry is simple. All that is needed is a swab of the cheek, and your name will be entered. You can also order an at-home registration kit at marrow.org or sign up in person at one of the many Be the Match Registry drives throughout the country. Help save a life. Join the National Marrow Donor Program today.

#### RAISING TAXES

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the majority leader today gave a speech, and he indicated that we have to raise taxes. He said the deficit was so big—due in large part to the spending on the Democrat side of the aisle—that the deficit was so big, we have to raise taxes. There's no other way.

When Ronald Reagan took office back in 1980, he heard the same thing. Everybody said that the spending was out of control, that we had to do more with less, and we had to raise taxes. Ronald Reagan talked to a guy named Art Laffer, who is an economist. He said, The way to get the economy moving was to cut taxes, to give people more disposable income, to give businesses more money to invest, and the economy would right itself. And it did, and we had 20 years of prosperity.

Now the Democrats, under the leadership of Mr. HOYER, want to raise